

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (currently amended) A card connector for receiving a card having an engagement recess on at least one side face, comprising:

a base having a slot into which the card can be inserted;

a slider provided at a position in the base to be abutable on the card;

a spring forcing the slider in a discharging direction of the card; and

a lock spring comprising a plate spring having a tip end engageable with the engagement recess of the card and a base end mounted on the slider, the tip end displaceable in a direction away from the card,

wherein said slider is pushed by the inserted card and thereby is moved along with the card from a card discharging position to a card insertion position against an urging force of the spring while, upon discharge of the card, the slider is moved along with the card by the urging force of said spring from the card insertion position to a card pop-out preventing position beyond the card discharging position, and

said base is provided with a first rib which abuts the tip end of the lock spring to prevent the tip end from being displaced in a direction away from the card when the slider is positioned

at the card pop-out preventing position.

Claim 2 (previously presented) The card connector according to claim 1, wherein said base is provided with a second rib which abuts said tip end of the lock spring to prevent the tip end from being displaced when said slider is positioned at the card insertion position.

Claim 3 (previously presented) The card connector according to claim 1, wherein said base is provided with an elastic member which abuts a tip end of said slider to return the slider from the card pop-out preventing position to the card discharging position when the slider is positioned at the card pop-out preventing position.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The card connector according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said tip end of the lock spring can be elastically deformed so as to disengage from said engagement recess of the card when it abuts at least said first rib.